for our library

4 September 1969

Itek Corporation
Lexington, Mass. 02173

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for promptly sending me your "Life-Itek Kennedy Assassination Film Analysis".

I wish to notify you that you are seriously in error in at least one section of your analysis. In light of the matters that I discuss below, I believe that you ought to correct your error at least to the extent of furnishing an addendum to your report, so that you will not cause your readers to believe something which cannot be true.

In section 2.3 Task C you conclude that, "the 'person' appearing in Willis no.5 and Betzner pictures joined two other persons on the steps by the time the car was at point 313."

Visible in Willis no.5 are two individuals standing on the steps which lead from Elm Steet to the area behind the concrete wall at the top of the knoll. The lower of the two individuals is wearing a red upper garment and the upper individual is wearing an upper garment which appears to have a bluish tint. Pictures taken after point 313 disclose three individuals, two of whom are those who are visible in Willis no.5. I refer specifically to the films by Mary Moorman, Orville Nix, and Mary Muchmore (You take no consideration of the Muchmore film, although it bears importantly on the matter that you discuss).

The person who is not visible in Willis no.5, but is visible in the pictures taken after point 313, is Emmett Hudson, the groundskeeper of Dealey Plaza. Both Hudson's testimony before the Warren Commission and the nature of the clothes that he was wearing at the time of the assassination conclusively refute your assertion that the 'person' visible behind the wall in Willis no.5 descended the stairs immediately after Willis took his photograph.

Hudson's testimony is located at volume 7,pp.558-565 of the Warren Commission's "Hearings". In the couse of that testimony Hudson informed the Commission that he was standing on the steps for several minutes before the shooting occurred. During that time he was talking with one of the other individuals on the steps.

Moreover, even without reference to Hudson's testimony you should have known that he could not possibly be the same as the 'person' behind the wall. The pictures taken after point 313 disclose that Hudson is wearing a white shirt, red jacket, and (especially) a white cap. None of these items of clothing correspond in the least with the clothing worn by the 'person' behind the wall. The 'person' behind the wall appears to be wearing a very dark colored coat and ~~headgear~~ very dark colored headgear.

Unquestionably, Hudson is not visible in Willis no. 5, but in light of his testimony and of the sure knowledge that he was wearing very different clothing from the 'person' behind the wall, ought you not to consider that in Willis no.5 Hudson is obscured either by one of the individuals on the steps or by the light-post that intervenes between the steps and Willis' camera?

I cannot determine how importantly this bears on the material which you treat in your section 2.1 Task A, wherein you discuss the "facelike image" that is visible in the Moorman photo and in other pictures ~~xxxxx~~ which show the wall ~~xxx~~ during and after the shooting. My confusion stems from your failure precisely to designate where behind the wall the "facelike image" is located. I have seen versions of the Moorman photo which show a "facelike image" at precisely the place where the 'person' is located behind the wall in Betzner and Willis no. 5. If you are referring to a different location than the one that I have in mind, then perhaps your conclusions about the "facelike image" are sound. In my version of the Moorman picture, the image that appears just above the south face of the concrete wall appears to be not merely a "facelike image", but a face. Considering that Betzner and Willis no.5 establish that there was a person in that location when the shooting began, and that that person did not descend the stairs, ~~xxxxx~~ I think it reasonable to assert that the "facelike image" just above the south face of the wall is indeed the image of a face.

I shall be interested to learn whether you can refute the matters discussed above, and, if you cannot, whether you have the measure of integrity that induces honorable men to admit and to correct their errors.

Yours truly,

Richard Bernabei

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